

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9342

SECDEF

USCINCEUR

INFO HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

CINCUSAFE

CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NB

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DEFENSE FOR ISA AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, UK, GW

SUBJ: GIANT STRIKE VI - PUBLIC AFFAIRS

REF: USCINCEUR 241519Z FEB; LONDON 14710 (1975)

1. ON BASIS OUR DISCUSSION WITH FCO OFFICIALS AS WELL AS WITH HQ 3RD AF, WE CONCLUDE THAT AS FAR AS THE PUBLIC MEDIA ASPECTS OF EXERCISE GIANT STRIKE VI ARE CONCERNED, THEY SHOULD BE PLAYED IN A VERY LOW KEY. OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT WE SHOULD AVOID A SIMULTANEOUS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE /UK. WE AGREE THAT THE RAF STRIKE COMMAND PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND TO QUERIES, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY ACTIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS ROLE SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN. SPECIFICALLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT NEWS MEDIA TOURS OF B-52 ACTIVITIES AT RAF MARHAM, NEWS MEDIA INTERVIEWS WITH SELECTED SAC AIRCREWS/SUPPORT PERSONNEL, AND AN INITIAL PRESS CONFERENCE AT RAF MARHAM UPON ARRIVAL OF THE B-52 AIRCRAFT SHOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN.

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2. THE CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, LED BY VANESSA

REDGRAVE, IS PRESENTLY PLANNING AN EASTER WEEKEND MARCH.
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT UNTOWARD PUBLICITY CONCERNING
B-52 DEPLOYMENT TO BRITAIN COULD ADD FUEL TO CND FIRES.
IN ANY EVENT, THE FCO CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE THE
DESIRABILITY OF "THE LEAST PUBLICITY THE BETTER".

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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